GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1249
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2015
Science Labs
Chautala Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has planned national discovery mission for establishment of science labs in every district to encourage students in science and mathematics;
(b) if so, whether the Government has instructed State Governments to establish adequate infrastructure for research in science and mathematics; and
(c) if so, the details thereof and the target planned along with the funds allocation estimated by the Government for this purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) The Ministry of Human Resource Development has launched the Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan (RAA), a convergent framework across School Education and Higher Education aiming to encourage children towards learning Science and Mathematics and to develop their interest through activities related to Science and Mathematics. One of the interventions under RAA is strengthening of school Science and Mathematics laboratories, through the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA).

(b) & (c) The desirability of having adequate infrastructure for quality education including research in science and mathematics has been constantly emphasized in the interaction with the State Governments at various forums including Project Approval Board (PAB) meetings, meeting of Education Secretaries, Joint Review Meeting of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and RMSA. Under the Framework of RAA, no specific targets have been fixed for strengthening of existing science laboratories. The Framework provides for strengthening of school science laboratories based on norms and standards utilizing funds under SSA and RMSA. In case of collaborative initiatives with Ministry of Science and Technology and Department of Higher Education institutions, pooling of funds from various schemes is an option.
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